

Memorial

Harry Bowley (1883-1958)

Harry Bowley, F.A.C.I., ex-Director of the Government Chemical Laboratories, died on Sunday, March 30th, 1958, at the age of 75. He was born at Crystal Brook in South Australia in 1883 and came to Western Australia at the age of 13.

He began his long Government service when he was appointed a junior clerk in the Geological Survey Branch of the Mines Department in 1898. In 1899 his professional career commenced with his appointment as cadet and thereafter he progressed steadily in his chosen profession: laboratory assistant, assistant assayer, assistant mineralogist and assayer.

Early in 1922 the Geological Survey Laboratory and the Government Analysis Laboratory were amalgamated to form the Government Chemical Laboratories and in 1926 Mr. Bowley was appointed Senior Mineralogist and Chemist, and in 1939 he was appointed Government Mineralogist and Analyst.

Bowley was mainly responsible for the conception, design and equipment of the modern laboratories in Adelaide Terrace, which were completed in 1943. In 1946, following a general re-organisation, he was appointed Director of the Government Chemical Laboratories, a position which he held until his retirement.

In his official capacity Bowley acted on many important committees associated with Water Supply, Public Health and Mineral Development. He was a member of the special committees responsible for the war-time development and management of the Chandler Alunite Works and the Charcoal Iron Industry at Wundowie.

Bowley was a foundation member of the Chemical Society of Western Australia which later became the Western Australian Branch of the Australian Chemical Institute. He was appointed a Fellow of the Institute in 1929,

served a term as its General President, and was a signatory to the petition for the granting of a Royal Charter (to the Institute).

In recognition of his services to the chemical profession he received the Institute's gold medal in 1937, and for many years acted on the Fellowship Panel of the State Branch of the Institute.

Bowley served a long term as Government Appointee on the State Advisory Committee of the C.S.I.R.O. and was one of the chief movers responsible for the formation of the National Association of Testing Authorities (N.A.T.A.). He served on the committee of this body until his death.

During his long association with the Royal Society of Western Australia he occupied the positions of council member, Honorary Treasurer, Vice President and President.

In recognition of his services he was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Society in 1953.

His Presidential Address entitled "The Ceramic Resources of Western Australia" was a valuable contribution to knowledge dealing as it did with many important clay and mineral deposits useful to the State's industrial development.

In addition to his scientific interests Bowley was a very keen Freemason and introduced into his masonic activities the same drive and enthusiasm which characterised his professional career.

Bowley was not a man to suffer fools gladly, but he earned the respect of his colleagues and the esteem of a wide circle of friends. In the words of one of his close associates "His manner in discussions, however forceful, was such that he earned the very deep respect of those who worked with him, and he will be long remembered as a capable colleague and a warm friend."

C. F. H. JENKINS.

Memorial

Edward de Courcy Clarke (1880-1956)

Emeritus Professor Edward de Courcy Clarke, formerly Professor of Geology in the University of Western Australia, died at the Kalgoorlie Hospital on Friday, 30th November, 1956. He was a highly esteemed member of the Royal Society of Western Australia, having served this Society faithfully almost continuously during the period 1919-1949 when he was associated with

the University of Western Australia. He was President of the Society in the years 1922-3 and 1935-6, Honorary Editor 1923-6, and Member of Council during the periods 1919-22, 1932-34, 1936-37 and 1941-44. Throughout the period of his association with the Society he was constantly consulted as the Society's main referee on geological matters. The Society recognized

his valued work for the Society in advancing interest in science in Western Australia and for his original contributions to Geology by awarding him its highest honour, the Kelvin Medal, in 1941.

Clarke was born at Waimate, New Zealand, on the 10th November, 1880, and was educated at the High School, Napier, and at University College, Auckland. On completing his University studies in 1901 he was appointed Science Master at Auckland Grammar School, a position which he occupied till 1907. During this time his main interest was in palaeobotany. In 1907 he became a field geologist with the Geological Survey of New Zealand and held this position until he resigned in February, 1910, to take up academic work as a Demonstrator in Geology and Biology at University College, Auckland.

In 1912 he received an appointment as field geologist with the Geological Survey of Western Australia and spent the remainder of his professional career in this State. He was associated with the Geological Survey of Western Australia from 1912 to 1920 when he was appointed Lecturer-in-charge of the Department of Geology at the University of Western Australia. He remained with the University of Western Australia until he retired from professional work in 1948, being given the title of Associate Professor in 1928, and Professor of Geology in 1930. During this time his main interest was in the Precambrian formations which form so much of the southern half of the State and this interest is evidenced by his Presidential Addresses to the Royal Society of Western Australia in 1923 and

to the Geological Section of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science in 1930. In addition he accomplished much original work on physiographic problems, chiefly in the South-West, but also on the broader aspects of physiography in Western Australia.

During his association with the University of Western Australia he carried out much original work and was a source of inspiration to a large school of younger geologists who are today contributing much to the development of the natural resources of Australia. Above all he insisted that training in actual field survey methods, and not simply inspectional field work, was an indispensable requisite in the training of geologists. The value of this type of training is seen in the high respect that his past students enjoy in many parts of Australia and overseas.

He was author or co-author of thirty-six bulletins and original papers and four textbooks of Geology, and his work has been recognized by the awards to him, in 1941, of the Kelvin Medal of the Royal Society of Western Australia, and, in 1954, of the Clarke Medal of the Royal Society of New South Wales.

Professor Clarke was a man of simple tastes and one who never sought publicity or acknowledgment of his work. To him the student was of the first importance, and, outstanding as his published contributions to geological science are, his greatest contribution was in the inspiration he yielded to his students.

REX T. PRIDER.

Memorial

James C. Hood (1896-1956)

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Mr. J. C. Hood on May 20th, 1956, at the age of 60 years. Born at Oban, Scotland, the late Mr. Hood received some of his early education in London but came to Western Australia with his parents at an early age.

In April, 1914, Mr. Hood was appointed a Temporary Junior Analyst in the Explosives and Analytical Branch of the Mines Department and after a course of study at the Perth Technical College, qualified as an analyst. In May, 1917, he was selected as one of the second group of chemists to go to England for work with the Ministry of Munitions and worked in various factories. For conspicuous service and an act of gallantry during an accident at one of these factories he was awarded the O.B.E.

Returning to Australia in 1919 Mr. Hood resumed duties in the Laboratories as an Assistant Analyst and his record is one of steady progress in his chosen profession. Chemist and Analyst 1920, Chemist 1941, Acting Supervising Chemist and Toxicologist 1943, and confirmed in this appointment in 1945, Deputy Government Analyst in 1946, culminating in his appointment

in 1955 to the most senior position in his chosen field, Director of the Government Chemical Laboratories. He was elected an Associate of the Australian Chemical Institute in 1919 and a Fellow in 1952.

He was an active member of this Institute, having served several years as a Committee member and at the time of his death was Vice-President (Acting President) of the W.A. Branch. He was a member of the Royal Society for many years, was a member of Council and Honorary Auditor.

Almost all of Mr. Hood's service was in the Food, Drugs and Toxicology Division of the Government Laboratories and he was an acknowledged authority in these fields. He was essentially of a practical turn of mind, a skilled constructor of apparatus and manipulator. His broad and detailed knowledge of chemistry, particularly in relation to food, drugs and toxicology was invaluable and was always at the disposal of others. His passing was a sad loss to chemistry in this State and to his colleagues.

L. W. SAMUEL.